

**FEBRUARY 2013 NEWSLETTER**

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## **Good News for Veterans**

A long awaited dream will soon be a reality for the Veterans of Eastern North Carolina. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded contracts for two Super Clinics, one in Greenville and one in Wilmington. In the near future, Veterans will be able to cut their drive time in half for specialty doctor visits. Today, Veterans have to drive, get a ride, or ride the Veterans Services Vans three hours to the Durham VA Medical Center for specialty care. Many of our Veterans are aging and the trips are especially difficult for them.

### **Greenville Super Clinic Facility**

The new Super Clinic in Greenville, which will be open in late 2013 or early 2014, will provide specialty services including Optometry, Audiology, Podiatry, Neurology, Mental Health, women's health, and diagnostics for Veterans throughout Pitt and surrounding counties in Eastern North Carolina. The new clinic means Veterans can experience shorter waiting times to get some of their medical preliminaries done.

The current VA outpatient clinic in Greenville, which opened in 1999, provides primary medical services to approximately 8,000 Veterans. The new facility will be able to provide more services to 20,000 Veterans across Eastern North Carolina. It will operate as a satellite facility to the Durham VA Medical Center. The 116,000 square feet of clinic space will provide specialty care closer to where Veterans live and allow the VA relationship with the Brody School of Medicine at ECU to flourish in the years to come.

### **Wilmington Multi-Specialty Outpatient Clinic**

The new Wilmington Multi-Specialty Outpatient Clinic for Veterans will encompass about 85,000 square feet and will provide specialty care never before available to Coastal Carolina Veterans through the VA. The ground-breaking took place on September 19, 2011 with a projected opening of March 2013. When completed, the clinic will offer Veterans, not only the primary and mental health care that is available in the current Wilmington clinic, but specialty care such as Audiology, Cardiology, Podiatry, Radiology, and dental care. Veterans who need these types of specialty care today either receive it in the community on a fee basis or drive all the way to Durham.

The above said, if you are a Veteran and are not enrolled in the VA Health Care System, you should seriously consider it. You have earned it through your service to our country. For VA Health Care enrollment information, you may contact Carteret County Veterans Services at (252) 728-8440.

## **VETERANS SERVICES IS LOOKING FOR** **A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN**

Veterans Services is looking for a few good men who would be willing to volunteer to drive Carteret County Veterans to the Durham VA Medical Center. We have two vans, leaving every day Monday through Friday. We ask that you be available to drive at least once a month, more would be greatly appreciated. There is no cost incurred by the driver or rider. Prospective drivers need only to pass a VA offered physical and to pass a background check. Please contact the Veterans Services Office at 3710-B John Platt Drive, (252)728-8440 if you are interested.